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OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

Mission

The Office of Current Intelligence is charged with informing the DCI and the Assistant Director of National Estimates of significant current day-to-day world developments which could affect the immediate operations or decisions of those directing action programs, and of presenting such intelligence to the top policy makers of the government through daily bulletins and periodic digests.

Organization

OCI is organized under the Assistant Director with four regional Divisions and a functional division known as the Soviet Strategy Staff. The USSR-Eastern European Division includes the Soviet Union and the European Satellite States. The Eastern Division includes China and other countries of the Far East. The Near East Division includes countries of the Near East and Africa. The Western Division includes Western Europe, Great Britain and Latin America. These Divisions maintain liaison with the State Department for political information, and the Soviet Strategy Staff fulfills a similar function with the defense agencies in obtaining military information required for integration with other data in the production of current intelligence.

Discussion

OCI bases its current intelligence on a continuous round-the-clock flow of information from all the collecting agencies of the government, both overt and covert.

Every available piece of information gathered from any source pours into OCI twenty-four hours a day making it necessary to operate in shifts. OCI must be in a position to brief the DCI at any time and to make necessary adjustments in the daily intelligence bulletin while it is in preparation. OCI is not concerned with foreign policy, but it does strive to establish a foundation on which policy may be based and to sound the alarm when indications warrant. Therefore, from day to day, it presents to the highest levels of the government every subtle adjustment or change observed in current situations throughout the world.

OCI produces a daily top secret "Current Intelligence Bulletin" designed for the President, the Secretaries of State and of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It sets forth sensitive situations in various foreign areas, any

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one of which could become a source of concern to the United States or require some adjustment in the government's foreign policy. Several supplements to the daily Bulletin are prepared for a limited group of special customers. The supplements deal with the reaction to American policy abroad of various friendly as well as potential enemy countries.

In addition to the Bulletin, OCI publishes a "Daily Digest", classified secret, which has a wider distribution. The Digest deals with all fields of intelligence and contains contributions from the IAC agencies. Items are briefly and tersely stated, and additional comment or interpretation is held to the minimum required to inform the reader. OCI also publishes a "Weekly Review" and a weekly "Situation Summary." These media bring together various fragments of information, the significance of which might easily be lost in a day-to-day presentation. The Review, which contains six or seven short articles, goes to the President. It is usually screened for him by one of the executive secretaries who may select one or more items for his attention. The Situation Summary is solely concerned with indications of foreign intentions. It summarizes indications which portend significant trends.

OCI acts as a watch dog in the preparation of National Estimates. If there is a tendency in an estimate to go too far afield, ONE may send it to OCI for comment. OCI may assert that there is additional evidence to support the contention, or that there is insufficient evidence to warrant it.

Occasionally a "crash" estimate by ONE is called for on an especially acute situation. The Department of State may be drafting a policy paper at the same time on the same matter. OCI may be required to furnish data on an "immediate" basis. This intelligence will be sent simultaneously to ONE and State.

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